



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

Nashrat Al-Sabah



February 7, 2007

Terrorist threats against UN and US interests

- A group of masked men visited *Al-Watan* independent daily claiming that they are responsible for sending terrorist threats to both the UN and the U.S. diplomatic missions in Khartoum. The group stated that they are being pursued by the authorities and are working underground in Darfur and other regions to "combat foreign intervention in Sudan." The group indicated that its funding derives from contributions, and its arms are easily attained via a neighboring county. While the group said it has no link to Al-Qaida, it shares the same aims. (*Al-Watan*)

SPLM Northern Sector Congress

- The Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) Northern Sector Congress concluded yesterday by stressing that secession of the South will inevitably lead to an end of the Sudanese state. Furthermore, SPLM Secretary General Pagan Amum stated that the SPLA is prepared for a possible military threat coming from the North, which aims to weaken, and possibly invade, the South. The Congress also discussed means to combat corruption in the South. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam, AlSahafa, et al*)

Darfur

- U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs, Theresa Whelan, stated that the United States is pressing for progress on the Darfur crisis, but is focusing on diplomacy. "We are not considering doing something militarily. I guess, in a case like Sudan, there are always things that are being considered. But I think the focus of the Special Envoy [Andrew] Natsios' efforts right now is on getting the parties back to the table," she said. (VOA)

Editorials and Commentaries

- The leading columnist for *Al-Sahafa* newspaper, Al-Tahir Satti, argues that the timing behind the dissemination of UN and U.S. Embassy warnings concerning a possible threat to western interests is intentional. He further argued that the aim is to mar Sudan's image and to portray it as an unstable state following the success of Chinese President Hu's visit to Sudan.

Miscellaneous

- Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter is scheduled to arrive in Sudan on Friday, according to an official at the Ministry of Health in Sudan. The official said that Carter would meet with the Health Minister as well as President Al-Bashir. (*Al-Sharie Al-Siasi*)

- The Popular Congress Party (headed by opposition figure Dr. Hassan Al-Turabi) announced it will become a "reform" party. A party official criticized the current government for not having an overall agenda for governing Sudan. (*Al-Hayat*)

- The White Nile (UK) petroleum company has reportedly started drilling operations in South Sudan. (*Al-Ayaam*)

- Libya has begun requiring entry visas for Sudanese, signaling a deterioration in relations between the two countries. (*Rai Al-Shaab*)

Quote of the Day

"We are able to resolve our problems without interference from others." – President Al-Bashir addressing Sudan's Workers Union

The Sudan Morning News is compiled as a service by the Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, Khartoum, Sudan. It presents a partial survey of the current Sudanese press and international reporting about Sudan. Material reported here does not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government.